प्रभाग और बीट स्टाफ को भी इन घटनाओं को चैक करने के अनुदेश दिए गए हैं। समय-समय पर विशेष अभियान चलाए जाते हैं और पी.सी.आर. (पुलिस कंट्रोल रूम) के विशेष दस्ते बसों में अचानक जांच करते हैं।

दिल्ली परिवहन निगम द्वारा किए गए उपायों में मुख्यत: यात्रियों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए दो पुलिस कर्मियों को नि:शुल्क सफर की अनुमति देना, महिला यात्रियों के लिए "यू" स्पेशल और महिला स्पेशल चलाना, सही समय पर कालेजों और शैक्षिक संस्थानों के निकट बस स्टापों पर वायरलेस संचार प्रणाली से सुसज्जित स्पेशल मोबाइल चैकिंग स्क्वैडों की तैनाती, निकास द्वारा से सिर्फ महिला यात्रियों के प्रवेश की अनुमति देने के अनुदेश जारी करना तथा दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के कर्मियों को बसें नजदीकी थाने तक ले जाने और घटना होने की दशा में पुलिस कंट्रोल रूम को सूचित करने के लिए स्थायी निर्देशों की और बार-बार ध्यान दिलाया जाना शामिल है।

Doubling of Kayankulan-Trivandrum Rail Line

*287. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether doubling of the Kayankulan-Trivandrum broad gauge rail line is being considered by Government; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what amount has been earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As the first phase of doubling of Kayankulan-Trivandrum section, doubling between Kayankulan and Quilon (40.84 km) has been proposed in the Budget for 1989-90. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 34.11 crore and outlay proposed during 1989-90 is Rs. I crore.

Declaring the Cochin-Madurai Rameswaram Road as National Highway

*288. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received a proposal from the State Government to declare Cochin-Madurai-Rameswaram road as a National Highway;

(b) if so, what would be its length and what are the salient features of the project; and

(c) what steps have been taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Rameswaram to Madurai having a length of about 167 kms. is already part of National Highway No. 49 and recently the portion from Madurai to Cochin covering a distance of about 280 kms. has also been declared as National Highway.

Joint Flights by Air India and Aeroflot to the Third-world Countries

*289. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India and the Soviet Airlines, Aeroflot, propose to jointly, operate flights to the third-world countries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether it is likely to affect the business of Air India; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the inter-govern-

mental talks held in October, 1988 and January, 1989, it was agreed in principle that Air India and Aeroflot will operate joints services to third-world countries which include a service to Harare. Mutually acceptable commercial arrangements will have to be worked out at airlines level.

Widening of Vijayawada Chilakaluripet Section of National Highway No. 5

*291. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for conversion of National Highway No. 5 from two lane to four lane between Vijayawada and Chilakaluripet has been finalised; if so, what is the present stage of its implementation, and whether the survey has been completed; if so, what is the target date to complete the acquisition of land, and the estimated cost of this project;

(b) whether there is any external aid for the project; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The work of survey investigations and project preparation has been taken up. The land acquisition estimate has been received from the State Govt. The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 102 crores.

(b) and (c) No external aid has been finalised for the project.

Relief Supplies from India to Afghanistan

*292. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to send relief supplies to Afghanistan by its own planes;

(b) whether Government have also consulted other leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is their reaction and by when Government propose despatching relief supplies to Kabul?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) In principle, Government would not object to sending humanitarian relief supplies either directly or through the UN, depending upon the actual situation, and logistical considerations.

(b) and (c) India would be willing to support, in this regard, any initiative the NAM or the UNSG might take, for helping with relief supplies to Afghanistan. We have offered to assist UNSG's efforts in this regard. His response to our offer is awaited.

Completion of Pali-Bid-Nagar Rail Line

*293. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pali-Nagar rail line *via* Bid on South Central Railway has been completed;

(b) if not, what portion is still under construction;

(c) what is the total amount spent on the project so far; and

(d) by when the said line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The survey for a new BG line from Ahmednagar to Parli *via* Bir is still in progress.

(b) to (d) Do not arise at this stage.